A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Montgomery County – Maximum Speed Limit in Business and Residential Districts

MC 22–17

FOR the purpose of altering, in Montgomery County, the maximum authorized speed limit on all highways in a business district and undivided highways in a residential district; exempting the local authority in Montgomery County from the requirement to conduct an engineering and traffic investigation when conforming maximum speed limits to the maximum speed limit established under this Act; making stylistic changes; and generally relating to maximum speed limits in business and residential districts in Montgomery County.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Transportation
Section 21–801.1(a) and (b) and 21–803(a)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2012 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.
Article – Transportation

21–801.1.

(a) (1) Unless there is a special danger that requires a lower speed to comply with § 21–801 of this subtitle, the limits specified in this section or otherwise established under this subtitle are maximum lawful speeds.

(2) A person may not drive a vehicle on a highway at a speed that exceeds these limits.

(b) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the maximum speed limits are:

(1) 15 miles an hour in alleys in Baltimore County;

(2) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN ITEM (3) OF THIS SUBSECTION, 30 miles an hour on:

(i) All highways in a business district; and

(ii) Undivided highways in a residential district;

(3) BETWEEN 20 MILES AN HOUR AND 30 MILES AN HOUR ON:

(i) ALL HIGHWAYS IN A BUSINESS DISTRICT IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY; AND

(ii) UNDIVIDED HIGHWAYS IN A RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY;

(4) 35 miles an hour on divided highways in a residential district;

[(4)] (5) 50 miles an hour on undivided highways in other locations; and

[(5)] (6) 55 miles an hour on divided highways in other locations.

21–803.
(a) (1) If, on the basis of an engineering and traffic investigation, a local authority determines that any maximum speed limit specified in this subtitle is greater or less than reasonable or safe under existing conditions on any part of a highway in its jurisdiction, it may establish a reasonable and safe maximum speed limit for that part of the highway, which may:

   (i) Decrease the limit at an intersection;

   (ii) Increase the limit in an urban district to not more than 50 miles an hour;

   (iii) Decrease the limit in an urban district; or

   (iv) [Decrease] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN § 21–801.1(b)(3) OF THIS SUBTITLE, DECREASE the limit outside an urban district to not less than 25 miles an hour.

(2) An engineering and traffic investigation is not required to conform:

   (I) [a] A posted maximum speed limit in effect on December 31, 1974, to a different limit specified in § 21–801.1(b) of this subtitle; OR

   (II) A MAXIMUM SPEED LIMIT IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY TO A DIFFERENT LIMIT SPECIFIED IN § 21–801.1(b)(3) OF THIS SUBTITLE.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2017.